



SERVE SOUTH DAKOTA
South Dakota Commission for National and Community Service (SDCNCS)
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2015

Commissioner Michael Wyland called meeting to order at 10:00 CDT.

ROLL CALL

In attendance – Burke, Deitz (ex officio), Nagle, Nordstrom, Pfaff, Saba, Wyland

Absent – Katus, Merdanian, Schlimgen

Staff Present – Ladonski, Miller, Thomas

Approval of Agenda – Wyland asked for motion to approve agenda as presented.

Motion by Nordstrom to approve agenda as presented. **Second** by Pfaff. All in favor and none opposed. Motion **carried**.

Approval of Minutes – Wyland asked for motion to approve commission's April 20, 2015 minutes.

Motion by Burke to approve commission's April 20, 2015 minutes. **Second** by Nordstrom. No further discussion. All in favor and none opposed. Motion **carried**.

Informational Public Comment Period – Wyland asked if there were any members of the public present that wished to make comment. Hearing none, Wyland moved to next agenda item.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Congressional Delegation - Burke, Deitz, and Ladonski recently visited with staff of Senators Thune and Rounds and Representative Noem. Because Commissioner Burke recently had an audience with Thune, Rounds and Noem due to the Delmont tornado, he offered to join the meetings to offer general support and to express the importance of national service in times of disaster. All meetings went well.

State Legislators - Deitz and Ladonski met with nine state legislators one-on-one, including members of the South Dakota Appropriations Committee. One legislator suggested that Serve SD consider having a legislator on the commission. Ladonski felt the meetings went better than expected with strong support. Ladonski and Deitz will consider continuing their outreach to the legislature. Ladonski requested that commissioners participate if they have a relationship with a legislator in their district, or others. The goal to share information about the important work national service members are doing throughout the state of South Dakota.

Disaster Services - Delmont, SD. Ladonski commented Serve SD has clause in the subgrantee agreements that allows for subgrantee AmeriCorps members to be called-up in times of disaster if they so choose. Lutheran Social Services diverted at least one AmeriCorps State member and one alum to serve at the Delmont tornado site during recovery.

State Service Commissions in Times of Disaster - Ladonski stated that some other state service commissions take on a significant role in managing volunteers or national service members in times of disaster. On June 16, Ladonski and Miller will be attending “managing spontaneous volunteers in times of disaster” training in Omaha. Ladonski will attend a Disaster Services Commission Convening in Shepherdstown, West Virginia in July.

Mayor’s Day of Recognition of National Service - In April, fifteen Mayors in South Dakota signed on in support of national service. Those 15 mayors represent 46.5% of the South Dakota population.

Programming - Ladonski listed the current subgrantees: Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, Lutheran Social Services, Red Cloud Indian School (RCIS) and Teach For America (TFA). Ladonski commented CNCS responded that TFA was once again funded competitively. She mentioned this year Red Cloud Indian School was submitted for State Competitive consideration as well, but was waitlisted. Serve SD will find out by mid-June if RCIS is funded competitively. Ladonski said this would free up over \$200,000 in our AmeriCorps State Formula allocation. Serve SD can still consider RCIS for formula funding if they are not funded competitively.

Promise Zone - Ladonski reported that Pine Ridge Indian Reservation was announced as a Promise Zone. As part of the program, up to five full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members will deploy to the Promise Zone to support the community’s goals and recruit and manage volunteers. She stated AmeriCorps VISTA members will be coordinated through Jill Deitz, CNCS State Director for North Dakota and South Dakota. Serve SD will have an ongoing conversation with Deitz’s office to determine how cross-stream collaboration will benefit the area.

Audit - Ladonski reminded commissioners that Serve SD is currently undergoing an audit of 2014 operations and financials. She reiterated that 2014 was the year of transition for the struggling organization – new name, bylaws, staff not hired until Q3 2014, establishment of policies and procedures, and so much more. The executive committee will receive a report of audit results from the audit team.

Governor’s Office – Ladonski stated that staff at the Governor’s Office continues to delay requests for updates on the status of commissioner nominations. She mentioned Wyland has requested a meeting with our liaison and no response has been received. Staff has pursued various avenues to illicit a response for many months now and are working on others.

Funding - Ladonski reported that she and former Commissioner Smith met last week with Wells Fargo, United Way and Vucurevich Foundation in Rapid City.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNICATION SERVICE STATE DIRECTOR REPORT

Deitz was glad to have the opportunity join Ladonski in visiting with the legislators and is proud of all the work happening at Serve SD. She is also excited to travel with Serve SD to the disaster trainings.

Deitz stated that the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation has been named as one of the eight Obama Administration’s Promise Zones. As part of this program, five full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members will deploy to Pine Ridge to build capacity and coordinate key efforts to achieve positive outcomes - a great opportunity for South Dakota.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Burke commented on his telephone conversation with the auditors, and feels Serve SD will have a good audit even with the reorganization in 2014. Wyland stated he also spoke with the auditors and while he believes there will be findings due to circumstances outside of staff control because of staff

transition and organizational restructuring, the staff has made great strides at the end of 2014 and into 2015 to address potential concerns in future audits.

Thomas reported on the Financial Statement of Position with current and total assets of \$21,017.48, current liabilities of \$4,307.51, and total liabilities and equity of \$21,017.48. She provided a review of the Statement of Activity year-to-date with revenues of \$186,376.71 that includes \$63,625.76 for Serve SD. Total expenditures for Serve SD are \$72,187.65 with \$122,750.95 for subgrantees. Thomas commented the net revenue is -\$1,121.78, and reminded the commission that the monthly CNCS draw had not been completed for April expenses.

GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Teach for America (TFA) and Red Cloud Indian School (RCIS) were forwarded for State Competitive consideration. If approved, funding comes directly from the Corporation for National and Community Service, not Serve South Dakota's AmeriCorps State Formula allocation. State Competitive programs remain in Serve South Dakota's portfolio of programs because Serve SD continues to provide training, monitoring, and oversight of these programs. TFA has been awarded competitive funding but RCIS has been waitlisted. Serve SD will have a final decision from CNCS about RCIS in the next few weeks. If RCIS is funded competitively, RCIS previous allocation through Serve SD could be used toward other worthy programs.

Miller reported that staff and the Grant Review Committee worked to ensure programs had federally compliant and realistic budgets. Budget adjustments were made to meet Serve SD and CNCS requirements and to unify the reimbursement rates to the state reimbursement rates.

Miller stated the Grant Review Committee is seeking approval of the following funding priorities to be used to allocate funding to as many of the programs as our \$600,000 will allow. Staff will be releasing another grant announcement in the near future in effort to further diversify the portfolio, a desire of the commission, and enhance service across the state.

Priority 1 – Red Cloud Indian School \$208,519; 18 MSY

Priority 2 – Sapa Un Academy \$29,847; 0 MSY

Priority 3 – Black Hills Special Service Coop \$126,211; 9.343 MSY

Priority 4 – South Dakota State University – Extension Office \$169,941; 12.59 MSY

Priority 5 – Lutheran Social Services \$65,472; 5.09 MSY

Priority 6 – Boy Scouts of America \$21,831; 1.59 MSY

Since Committee brings this proposal forward it does not require a motion or second.

Wyland called for a vote of **approval**.

All in favor and none opposed. **Approval passed.**

MARKETING AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Ladonski reported that Miller has been updating Facebook with more regularity.

Ladonski called for commissioners to help in engaging with state legislators. Ladonski also requested commissioners send letters of support to the Governor's Office.

Ladonski reported Serve SD has accumulated \$64,464 for in-kind value in public service announcements shown on KDLT of Sioux Falls and KEVN of Rapid City. The in-kind value will be allocated to the grantee share of the commission support grant marketing budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioners requested Serve SD apparel to wear when meeting with legislators or potential funders. Staff will follow up with the commissioners.

Motion to adjourn by Nordstrom. **Second** by Nagle. All in favor with none opposed. Motion **carried**. Meeting adjourned at 11:09 CDT.